304 852 [412 302] Circumcision. -- Boys are circumcised at the age of three or four, usually by a marabout. Circumcision (amoud, amilli, or azemmoued) is not the occasion for any festivity and is practiced collectively. The cutting instrument used is a little knife with an iron blade, used by the men as a razor. During the healing period the child rests in his parents' camp and is cared for by them.

[171] Little girls are not excised as they are among the Moors of Tagant and Hodh.

291 855 [556] Children go around naked until they are five or six years old, depending on the wealth or the foresight of their parents. Little girls wear a loincloth at the age of six or seven, while boys wear trousers of the same style as the men.

861 Education. -- Children's education begins after weaning. From that time on the boy passes under the control of his father, while the girl stays in her mother's hands. This education is hardly complicated for either the boy or girl.

868 857 [462] The little boy, from the age of five, takes care of watching the goats and sheep by himself. Later he is entrusted with the camels, which he leads to pasture and to drink. He is also taught how to milk goats, for among the Tuareg, men, as a rule, take charge of this job. Toward the age of seven he begins to ride camels. Then fights with sabers or lances are organized in the form of games between children of the same age, arms being replaced by millet stems or tree branches. This is not a part of education properly speaking, since it is done by the children themselves.

868 869 [212] Religious education is rather neglected among the Ahaggar Tuareg where marabouts are scarce. When there is a marabout in a camp, he teaches children and young people the rudiments of the Koran, which they learn by heart by singing it all day long, for they are ignorant of Arabic writing.

881 [145] 291 [431] /287/ The litham /veil/ is put on the boy at fifteen or sixteen when the hair begins to appear in his armpits. It is put on by the father, most often at the time of Ramadan. There is no additional ceremony for the occasion. The father gives his son some good advice, and young women and girls give him tobacco as a gift.